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SUBJECT: DANES TO ABSTAIN WITH EU ON KOSOVO ICJ RESOLUTION

REF: STATE 105796

Classified By: Pol/Econ Counselor Bill Mozdzierz, reasons 1.4b,d

(C) Denmark will abstain on the UNGA vote to refer Kosovo's declaration of independence to the International Court of Justice (reftel), David Kendal of the Danish MFA's legal department told us October 3. The great majority of EU member states are also expected to abstain, he said. Kendal suggested that the Danish government might have considered joining a blocking minority, but has concluded reluctantly that such numbers are very unlikely. Denmark's abstention marks the middle ground position, Kendal observed, between its strong political support for Kosovo and longstanding Danish backing for the ICJ as a mechanism for dispute resolution.
CAIN